

good, and also the paper and typography. We think it is a useful book for the specialist but not for the general practitioner for whom he states it was written, because throughout the whole book there prevails a lukewarm tone of praise or condemnation: when the general practitioner consults a specialty book, he wants some decided expression of the author as to what of the signs, remedies and plans of treatments he has found best, otherwise he might as well consult the therapeutic index in the back of any pharmacopeia.

A. W. PERRY.

Gynecology. Edited by E. C. Dudley, A. M., M. D., and C. von Bachel, M. S., M. D. Practical Med. Series. 1911. Published by Year Book Pub. Co., Chicago, 1911.

This little volume is a résumé of the advances of gynecology during the year, giving the results of many men's work in a very concrete form and the busy practitioner is saved the labor of wading through endless papers in the journals. The book is divided into six parts: general principles, infectious and allied disorders, malformations and tumors, traumatism, displacements and disorders of menstruation and sterility.

In part one, J. P. Tuttle's article on the relation between rectal diseases and diseases of the female pelvic organs is the most important. He deals minutely with the symptoms of each and shows their similarity due to proximity of nerve centers in the cord.

In part two, the article on tubercular peritonitis is well worth reading, giving many useful ideas. The bacterial vaccines are being used more and their place in therapeutics is well established.

In part three the differential diagnosis of various tumors is very concise and yet admits the practical impossibility of differentiating between the different malignant masses before operation.

Our attention is called to the necessity of removing lymph glands and the upper vaginal mucosa in connection with carcinoma uteri. This has been neglected in the past and must be passed up in the future in those cases that do not stand the shock of operation well.

Radium is recommended in inoperable cases and used previous to operation in those cases which are on the borderline, as a means of preparation for operation. As heretofore, early operation is the only means at our disposal, by which we can hope to effect permanent cures.

Hysterectomy for fibromata is advised more than formerly, as the risk of operation is 5%, while the risk of carrying the tumor is 14%.

In part five retroversion operations are discussed. No method is ideal, but Webster's seem to offer the best results.

G. S. S.

TRANSMISSION OF DISEASE BY MEANS OF BOOKS.

The undersigned is preparing a paper upon "Books as a source of disease" to be read before the next "International Congress of Hygiene," and in order to obtain data, respectfully requests the readers of this note to send him an account of any cases, the source of which have been traced to books or papers, or where the evidence seemed to make books or papers the offender. He would also further request information where illness or even death has been caused by the poisons used in bookmaking.

All the information possible is wanted to present as complete a paper as possible. As in the case of insects which we now know to be "carriers of disease," it is first necessary to collect the scattered evidence in order to show that there is real danger in books; and this will compel better care to be taken of libraries and books and improve the health of mankind.

WM. R. REINICK,

1709 Wallace St., Philadelphia, Pa.

San Francisco, Cal., Oct. 28, 1911.

René Bine, M. D.,

Sec'y. S. F. County Medical Society,
San Francisco, Cal.

Dear Doctor:—The Hospital Commission of the San Francisco County Medical Society respectfully submits the following first report of its negotiations with the various hospitals of San Francisco.

To all the hospitals of San Francisco was sent a copy of the resolutions adopted by the San Francisco County Medical Society at its regular meeting March 14, 1911, with the request that they define their attitude toward the same.

The following hospitals communicated with the Commission, stating that they were in complete accord with the spirit of the resolutions of the County Medical Society, and, on investigation, these hospitals were found to be complying with the resolutions and are therefore "Acceptable" to the Commission. They are:

Adler Sanatorium.
Hahnemann Hospital.
Lane Hospital.
Mount Zion Hospital.
St. Francis Hospital.
St. Luke's Hospital.
St. Mary's Hospital.

University of California Hospital.

The two following hospitals received the communications of the Commission favorably and have made concessions to the profession in the lines indicated by the resolutions. They do not, however, fully meet the requirements of the resolutions and cannot for that reason be unqualifiedly classed as "Acceptable." The Commission is of the opinion that further time should be given these institutions and that they should be classed as "Provisionally Acceptable." These hospitals are:

The German Hospital.
St. Joseph's Hospital.

The following hospitals have been communicated with repeatedly, but have not answered the Commission's communications. Investigation shows that they are not conducted in accordance with the resolutions of the County Medical Society, and they are therefore classed as "Not Acceptable." They are:

The Children's Hospital.
The French Hospital.

All other hospitals not here included are private hospitals and are therefore not classified.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) FAYETTE WATT BIRTCH, Pres.
CONRAD WEIL.
M. O. AUSTIN.
THOS. D. MAHER.

SPECIAL STUDY OF PELLAGRA.

The Department of Tropical Medicine of the New York Post-Graduate Medical School is organizing an expedition to investigate Pellagra in the Southern States. The work will start in the spring and is made possible by the gift to the institution for this purpose of \$15,000.00 by Col. Robt. M. Thompson and Mr. J. H. McFadden.

TROPICAL MEDICINE.

New laboratories, completely equipped for post-graduate medical instruction and research, have been organized and opened at the New York Post-Graduate Medical School and Hospital. The director is Jonathan Wright, M. D., and the staff includes: Tropical Medicine, in collaboration with the medical departments of the Army and Navy: James N. Phalen, M. D., Capt. Med. Corps, U. S. A.; Francis M. Shook, M. D., P. A. Surg., U. S. N.; Bacteriology: Ward J. MacNeal, Ph. D., M. D.; Richard M. Taylor, M. D.; Pathology: Ward J. MacNeal, Ph. D., M. D.; Oliver S. Hillman, M. D.; Biochemistry: Victor C. Meyers, Ph. D.; Morris S. Fine, Ph. D.